

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application:

1. (Currently amended) An image-processing apparatus that stores encoded data of an image as a file in a memory medium in the image-processing apparatus, or externally, comprising:

a unit to adjust file size of the image data based on a memory domain management unit of the memory medium such that the file size becomes near, but does not exceed an integer multiple of the memory domain management unit of the memory medium,

wherein size of the memory domain management unit is equal to size of a sector of the memory medium.

2. (Original) The image-processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the unit for adjusting the file size processes the encoded data in a state of encoded codes as they are.

3. (Original) The image-processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further

comprising an image compression unit to carry out compression coding of the image and for generating the encoded data.

4. (Original) The image-processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein a method for code discarding for the file size adjustment is selectable.

5. (Original) The image-processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the encoded data consist of a plurality of layers, and each layer is restructured when the file size adjustment is carried out.

6. (Original) The image-processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the encoded data consist of a plurality of layers, and when the file size adjustment is carried out, the file size of a lower ranking layer is adjusted to be near an integer multiple of the memory domain management unit, the lower ranking layer being ranked lower than a predetermined specific layer.

7. (Original) The image-processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the encoded data consist of a plurality of layers, and when the file size adjustment is carried out, a sequence of progression is changed and the layer division is revised.

8. (Original) The image-processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the encoded data are divided into a plurality of sets of encoded data on a layer basis, when the file size adjustment is carried out.

9. (Original) The image-processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the memory domain management unit for the file size adjustment is set up as desired.

10. (Currently amended) An image-processing method of storing encoded data of an image as a file in a memory medium, the method comprising:

adjusting file size based on a memory domain management unit of the memory medium such that the file size becomes near, but does not exceed an integer multiple of the memory domain management unit of the memory medium,

wherein size of the memory domain management unit is equal to size of a sector of the memory medium.

11. (Original) The image-processing method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the file size adjustment of the encoded data is performed by processing the encoded data in a state of encoded codes as they are.

12. (Original) The image-processing method as claimed in claim 10, further

comprising performing a compression coding process to carry out the file size adjustment of the encoded data while generating the encoded data.

13. (Original) The image-processing method as claimed in claim 10, further comprising selecting a method of code discarding for the size adjustment of the encoded data.

14. (Original) The image-processing method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the encoded data consist of a plurality of layers, and each layer is restructured when the file size adjustment is carried out.

15. (Original) The image-processing method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the encoded data consist of a plurality of layers, and when the file size adjustment is carried out, the file size of a lower ranking layer is adjusted to be near an integer multiple of the memory domain management unit, the lower ranking layer being ranked lower than a predetermined specific layer.

16. (Original) The image-processing method as claimed in claim 10, wherein a sequence of progression is changed and the layer division is revised, when the file size adjustment is carried out.

17. (Original) The image-processing method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the encoded data are divided into a plurality of sets of encoded data on a layer basis, when the file size adjustment is carried out.

18. (Original) The image-processing method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the memory domain management unit for the file size adjustment is set up as desired.

19. (Currently amended) An article of manufacture having one or more recordable media storing instructions thereon which, when executed by a system, cause the system to encode data by:

adjusting file size based on a memory domain management unit of the memory medium such that the file size becomes near, but does not exceed an integer multiple of the memory domain management unit of the memory medium,

wherein size of the memory domain management unit is equal to size of a sector of the memory medium.

20. (Original) The article of manufacture defined in claim 19, wherein the file size adjustment of the encoded data is performed by processing the encoded data in a state of encoded codes as they are.

21. (Original) The article of manufacture defined in claim 19, wherein the system further encodes data by performing in a compression coding process to carry out the file size adjustment of the encoded data while generating the encoded data.

22. (Original) The article of manufacture defined in claim 19, wherein the system further encodes data by selecting a method of code discarding for the size adjustment of the encoded data.

23. (Original) The article of manufacture defined in claim 19, wherein the encoded data consist of a plurality of layers, and each layer is restructured when the file size adjustment is carried out.

24. (Original) The article of manufacture defined in claim 19, wherein the encoded data consist of a plurality of layers, and when the file size adjustment is carried out, the file size of a lower ranking layer is adjusted to be near an integer multiple of the memory domain management unit, the lower ranking layer being ranked lower than a predetermined specific layer.

25. (Original) The article of manufacture defined in claim 19, wherein a sequence of progression is changed and the layer division is revised, when the file size adjustment is

carried out.

26. (Original) The article of manufacture defined in claim 19, wherein the encoded data are divided into a plurality of sets of encoded data on a layer basis, when the file size adjustment is carried out.

27. (Original) The article of manufacture defined in claim 19, wherein the memory domain management unit for the file size adjustment is set up as desired.